

Message

From: Short, Thomas [short.thomas@epa.gov]
Sent: 1/30/2019 9:15:52 PM
To: Borries, Samuel [borries.samuel@epa.gov]; Dee, Rhiannon [dee.Rhiannon@epa.gov]; Ballotti, Doug [ballotti.douglas@epa.gov]
CC: Kelley, Jeff [kelley.jeff@epa.gov]; Benning, Brad [benning.bradley@epa.gov]; Ribordy, Michael [ribordy.mike@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: SH Bell talking points

Thank you for the edits Same.

From: Borries, Samuel
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 2:27 PM
To: Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>; Dee, Rhiannon <dee.Rhiannon@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>
Cc: Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>; Benning, Brad <benning.bradley@epa.gov>; Ribordy, Michael <ribordy.mike@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SH Bell talking points

All,
Below are some suggested changes for the background section of the SH Bell talking points. Changes in red font.
Thanks.

Manganese is a naturally occurring element used in the production of steel and other industrial processes. Manganese can be toxic when inhaled by humans at elevated exposure levels, leading to nerve damage and behavior and emotional issues.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is planning to clean up residential yards containing excessive manganese near the S.H. Bell facility on Chicago's southeast side. The city of Chicago asked the federal Agency last April to evaluate soil pollution near the facility in the area between the Calumet River to the west, South Ewing Avenue to the east, 100th Street to the north and 104th Street to the south. U.S. EPA sampled more than 100 yards for heavy metals including manganese and lead.

Sample results showed surface soil (the top 6 inches) in several yards contained manganese and lead above U.S. EPA's action level. The federal Agency uses a "removal management level," or RML, to evaluate the manganese pollution. The Agency set a RML of 5,500 mg/kg for manganese. For lead contamination EPA is targeting properties where surface lead levels are equal to or exceed 1,200 mg/kg and where sensitive populations reside. For this project, sensitive population is defined as pregnant women and children under seven. EPA will also evaluate removal actions in properties where children in the house have a blood lead level at or above a scientific measurement of 10 micrograms of lead per deciliter.

RMLs help identify areas, contaminants, and conditions where a cleanup action may be appropriate. Sites with pollutant concentrations above the RMLs may not necessarily warrant a cleanup depending upon factors such as background concentrations, the use of site-specific exposure scenarios, or other program considerations. U.S. EPA mailed all property owners their validated soil sample results as they became available and called owners who have high levels of manganese and/or lead in their soil to explain the results.

Sam Borries
Chief, Emergency Response Branch 2
USEPA Region 5, Superfund Division

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From: Short, Thomas
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 10:57 AM
To: Dee, Rhiannon <dee.Rhiannon@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>
Cc: Borries, Samuel <borries.samuel@epa.gov>; Kelley, Jeff <kelley.jeff@epa.gov>; Benning, Brad <benning.bradley@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: SH Bell talking points

Rhiannon,

I took a stab at it based on the information we drafted in a recent fact sheet. Am open to suggestions/changes.

Sam/Brad, I did have one question. Do we know exactly how many yards are scheduled for cleanup?

Thomas Richard Short Jr.
Acting Director
Superfund Division
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short.thomas@epa.gov

From: Dee, Rhiannon
Sent: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 10:16 AM
To: Nam, Ed <nam.ed@epa.gov>; Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>; Furey, Eileen <furey.eileen@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: SH Bell talking points

Hi there,

Hope you are all staying warm. I wanted to check in on the talking points and see if there is anything you need from me at this point. We are looking to have a final draft by COB Friday, so I would need a first cut by Friday morning or early afternoon.

Ed/Eileen, I know Katie S. and her group are working to update the EtO hot issue, but not sure about Watco.

Rhi

From: Kelley, Jeff
Sent: Tuesday, January 29, 2019 10:39 AM
To: Short, Thomas <short.thomas@epa.gov>; Nam, Ed <nam.ed@epa.gov>; Ballotti, Doug <ballotti.douglas@epa.gov>; Furey, Eileen <furey.eileen@epa.gov>
Cc: Dee, Rhiannon <dee.Rhiannon@epa.gov>; Bassler, Rachel <Bassler.Rachel@epa.gov>; Deamer, Eileen <deamer.eileen@epa.gov>; Rowan, Anne <rowan.anne@epa.gov>
Subject: SH Bell talking points

Cathy is going to reach out to Sens. Durbin and Duckworth next week to give a heads up about the upcoming cleanup at the SH Bell site. She would like some talking points for discussing the cleanup, and also for answering questions about other topics we think could come up. These include southeast Chicago manganese (SH Bell and Watco) and Illinois EtO emissions.

Could you ask the appropriate folks in your office to work with Rhiannon Dee and Eileen Deamer to pull something together? I know we've got a desk statement about the cleanup and I think briefing papers on the other topics have been pulled together recently, too.

Jeff Kelley

Director, Office of External Communications

U.S. EPA Region 5

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